

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **LONGMEADOW INTERFAITH COMMUNITY LAUNCHES DRIVE FOR PERSONAL CARE ITEMS**

***St. Andrew's Episcopal Church announces "Longmeadow Loves" supply drive***

**[LONGMEADOW, MA, April 30, 2020]** - The Greater Longmeadow Community is working together during this COVID-19 Crisis to meet the need for diapers, wipes, period products and incontinence supplies by launching "Longmeadow Loves", a supply drive throughout the month of May. While the need for these products is constant, during this challenging time individuals and families are hard-pressed to obtain the items they need because these products are not covered under federal assistance programs such as WIC, SNAP or Medicaid.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, along with interfaith partners First Church of Christ in Longmeadow and Temple Beth El will be collecting donations of diapers, wipes, pull-ups, tampons, pads, and adult diapers. Drop-off bins will be located at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 335 Longmeadow St, Longmeadow, at the office door in the rear parking lot. Look for the blue LONGMEADOW LOVES logo.



For those who are not able to purchase products in stores but would still like to help, a gift registry of needed products has been set up with Target, and can be accessed via this link: [tgt.gifts/longmeadowloves](https://tgt.gifts/longmeadowloves). Items purchased through this registry will ship directly to St. Andrew's for collection.

Several nonprofit organizations will be receiving the donated items for distribution to those in need. Those organizations include:

Church Without Walls  
Behavioral Health Network Inc.  
The Gray House  
Open Pantry Emergency Food  
Springfield Family Resource Center  
Way Finders

"The need for these products is constant, but these products are not covered under federal assistance programs such as WIC, SNAP, or Medicaid. Given the shut-down of many non-profits and take-away centers during this COVID pandemic, food banks are allocating their available space for food items. This means that families may have to choose between food, paying their electric bill, or buying personal care products like diapers. An inadequate supply of these items can lead to health issues," explains Rev. Charlotte LaForest, Rector of St. Andrew's. "As a community, we've been looking for a way to help those in need and are thrilled to have other partners joining us in this drive."

Organizations interested in participating or those in need of donations may contact Rev. Charlotte LaForest, Rector, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church for more information, via phone: 413-567-5901 or email: [charlotte@st-andrews-longmeadow.org](mailto:charlotte@st-andrews-longmeadow.org).

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